

The Semaphore

A Publication of the TELEGRAPH HILL DWELLERS

Issue 229

Spring 2020

SHELTERED IN PLACE

FERLINGHETTI 101



© CITY LIGHTS BOOKS

I am signaling you through the flames.
The North Pole is not where it used to be.
Manifest Destiny is no longer manifest.
Civilization self-destructs.
Nemesis is knocking at the door.

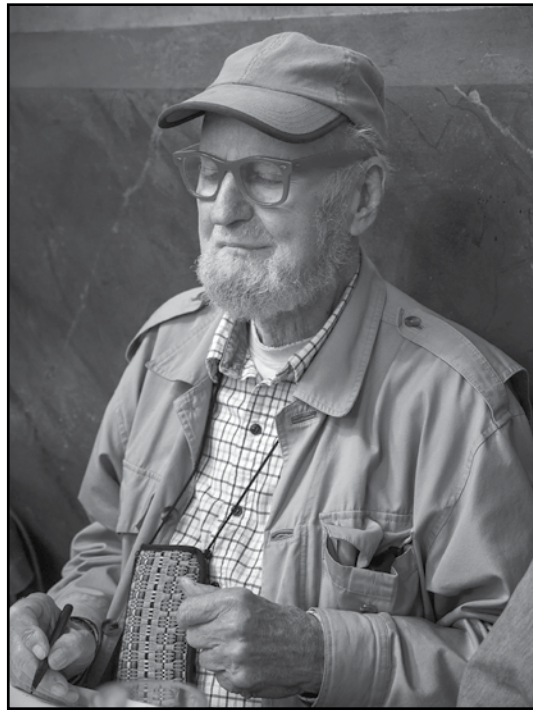
What are poets for, in such an age?
What is the use of poetry?

The state of the world calls out for poetry to save it.

Lawrence Ferlinghetti

101 years old on March 24, 2020

(from *Poetry as Insurgent Art*)



© DENNIS HEARNE



TRANSPORTATION REPORT

by Howard Wong, AIA, Committee Chair
howard.wong@thd.org

MUNI AND CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC

MUNI BREAKING NEWS: As of April 8, Muni shut down 71 routes, offering bus service for only 17 of the most essential lines: N, L, T, 1, 8, 9, 14, 14R, 19, 22, 24, 25, 29, 38, 38R, 44, and 49. The underlying reasons were an 85% drop in ridership and 40% drop in available Muni operators.

MUNI AND CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC

Despite health worries and stay-at-home and social-distancing decrees, many essential workers and those traveling for food/medical needs depend on Muni transit, especially low-income people and seniors. But transit agencies have decreased service due to steep ridership and revenue declines—on top of slumping transit use in past years.

In the month of March, Muni reported a 35-50% drop in ridership and \$1 million in lost revenue per week. BART has had a 92% drop in ridership, losing \$7 million per week in fares, prompting reduced hours and possible Sunday closures and elimination of the Red/ Green Lines. Caltrain has seen a 90% drop in ticket sales and losses of \$1.6 million per week. The Golden Gate Bridge has had a 70% drop in traffic, losing \$300,000 per day in revenue. Coronavirus' ravaging impacts cry out for sustaining transit funds from the State Legislature and U.S. Congress.



Pedestrian crosswalk before social distancing.

© HOWARD WONG

MUNI SERVICE CUTS

With service cuts and route eliminations, Muni is monitoring ridership numbers, adjusting headways (gaps between vehicles), and skipping stops to ensure social-distancing in accordance with federal Centers for

Disease Control (CDC) guidelines.

As of March 30, all Muni Metro subway stations were closed, except for those downtown stations that provide access to BART during operating hours. Shuttle buses have replaced all Muni Metro and light rail routes (J, KT, L, M, N). Cable Car routes were supplanted by bus substitutions. Most rapid bus routes are to be suspended.

In the northeast quadrant of the City, eliminated routes include the 41-Union bus and E-Line service. The F-Line bus substitution runs only between the Ferry Building and Pier 39. The 47-Van Ness bus is suspended on Saturdays and Sundays, offset by extension of the 49-Van Ness bus to Fisherman's Wharf. Other bus lines are running at reduced or weekend service levels, though neighborhood and hospital-serving routes have been augmented. Paratransit service continues to operate normally. For route schedules, route maps, trip planning, and Covid-19 service updates, go to the San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency (SFMTA) website <http://www.sfmta.com/>

TRANSIT HEALTH SAFETY

On March 24, a Muni bus operator based at the Potrero Yard tested positive for Coronavirus; a second driver, working out of the Presidio Yard, tested positive on March 30.

Extra safety and cleaning protocols are being applied to Muni vehicles, as well as adherence to safety rules and partitioning of drivers. Because drivers are better protected by the physical barrier on buses, buses are replacing Muni Metro trains, cable cars, and historic streetcars on their routes. Fearing coronavirus infection, Muni drivers have acted on their own, shutting front doors of buses (for back-door entry only), taping up fareboxes, and refusing to accept cash to keep riders at least six feet away. The Transit Workers Union has advocated for free fares, rear door boarding, and limits on the number of riders aboard.

COIT 39 BUS: A NEIGHBORHOOD RESOURCE

Locals really need to utilize the valuable Coit 39 bus. More than a tourist ride with scenic views, this small but powerful transit dynamo connects North Beach, Telegraph Hill, Coit Tower, Safeway, Trader Joe's, Fisherman's Wharf, Pier 39, Filbert Steps, and more. In 1954, Telegraph Hill Dwellers (THD) was founded to save the 39 bus from elimination. Over



Muni bus before social distancing.

© HOWARD WONG

the years, multiple SFMTA attempts to eliminate the route, or cut service hours, incited THD to save the little bus that "climbs halfway to the stars." To increase passenger count, the THD Transportation Committee extended the route to Pier 39, coining the slogan "Coit 39 = Pier 39."

PARKING ENFORCEMENT RELAXED

As of the writing, the SFMTA has suspended ticketing for mechanical street cleaning, although citizens are asked to move their cars, if possible. As well, enforcement is temporarily suspended for 72-hour parking limits, 1-, 2-, and 4-hour zones, residential permit parking, commuter shuttles, and peak-hour towaway zones. Parking meter rates are temporarily reduced. Some parking garages have been closed or limited to monthly pass-holders.

Again, see <http://www.sfmta.com/> for updates on when regular enforcement will return.

A PROMPTER FOR CHANGE

Even prior to the Coronavirus Pandemic, SFMTA faced a \$53 million structural budget deficit. Fare increases had already been planned. The new declines in Muni ridership and revenues exacerbate seemingly annual systemic deficits, warranting an independent audit of SFMTA and simpler solutions for citywide Muni transformation, as seen in great transit cities around the world.



© STAN HAYES



PRESIDENT'S CORNER

by Stan Hayes
President@thd.org

Well, here we are. As of this writing, inside, locked down and locked in. Once we thought when something went viral, it was a good thing. Not so much anymore. In fact, not at all. Badly deficient of clairvoyance, I can't begin to know what we'll all be thinking and experiencing when you read this column next month.

I might not know what's coming. But I know what I hope. I hope that you and yours are safe and healthy. That you're weathering the storm. That the word 'pandemic' has begun to recede at least a bit from its every-minute drumbeat, starting to fade back to the crossword puzzle clue that we hope it once again becomes. That "social distancing" is once again replaced by the hugs and huddles of social closeness. That you've rediscovered once again the warmth and support of neighbors and neighborhood that, though all too often edged aside in our busy world, were there all along.

Even with all that's happening in the world around us, though, here are a few things going on nearer to home to help take your mind off the virus.

THD Annual Meeting & Election. Every year since 1954, when THD was founded, there has been a THD annual meeting, according to our bylaws "primarily for the election of officers and directors." Not this year, however. We had planned the meeting for April 27, once again at the South End Rowing Club. As we all know so well, to slow the spread of the COVID-19 virus in the community, the City has issued orders prohibiting or severely restricting public gatherings and asking residents to shelter-in-place, extending throughout April and, by the time you read this, almost certainly longer.

Given circumstances, unprecedented in THD's 66 years, we've needed to postpone the Annual Meeting & Election until the COVID-19 storm clouds clear, and, once again, we can all come together safely. We'll let everyone know when the rescheduled meeting and elec-

IT TAKES A COMMUNITY ♦ ♦ ♦



Deserted Fisherman's Wharf.

© DAVID LIPKIN

tion will be held, once we know. Until that time, per the bylaws, the current officers and directors have agreed to continue their service.

In preparation for the eventual election, we are publishing the proposed slate of officers and directors in this issue of *The Semaphore*. (See the Nominating Committee's notice elsewhere in these pages.) You'll also find it displayed on our website and we'll be sending it to members, too.

Community Resources. In the hope that we could help during these uncertain times, we compiled a list of community resources that posted on THD's website

at www.thd.org/covid-19. It's a lengthy listing, providing online links to many community, public health, and service resources for coping with the COVID-19 virus. Community and public health resources include links to District 3 Supervisor Aaron Peskin, San Francisco Departments of Public Health and Emergency Management, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and California Department of Public Health. Service resources include a list of senior services, including support, grocery delivery, and medication delivery (a big thank-you to Jacqueline Jones, Executive Director of NEXT Village SF), and food banks and general services (a big thank-you to Kathleen Courtney of the Russian Hill Community Association). We're grateful to all those who have provided information for this list. We hope that you've had a chance to look at it and found it helpful.

Elsewhere in This Issue. We know you've had a lot on your mind lately. We hope that this issue of *The Semaphore* will help, at least for a while. Sit back and read about such varied topics as an update on the waterfront, short biographies of community members we've lost, the until-now-untold story of the man who designed and built our semaphore on the Hill, a review of a great new book entitled *Hidden San Francisco*, and more.

Remembering Arthur Chang. Finally, we remember, with sorrow and gratitude, the loss of Arthur Chang. Arthur was a long-term member of THD, eight years of which he spent on the board, several as an officer. He first joined the board in 1995, 25 years ago. Arthur was smart and dedicated to the community. And, much to the good of THD, he was also smart and dedicated to THD. For that we'll be ever grateful.

As always, to join or to get information about THD, please come to our website at thd.org, or send an email to helo@thd.org. If you'd like to get involved, you can go to www.thd.org/member-info.

It takes a community to make things safe. THD wishes you all the very best during this challenging time.



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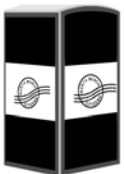


A **Drop-in Resource Center** for homeless and low-income individuals
Monday-Friday 9:30am -Noon

A **Community Foodbank** for seniors and low-income people living in SRO's in NB
Wednesdays 10:30am-12:30pm



Street Beautification Work Program
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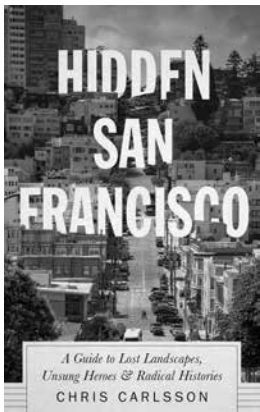
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"The greatness of a community
is most accurately measured
by the compassionate actions
of its members."

— Coretta Scott King

HIDDEN SAN FRANCISCO

A GUIDE TO LOST LANDSCAPES, UNSUNG HEROES & RADICAL HISTORIES



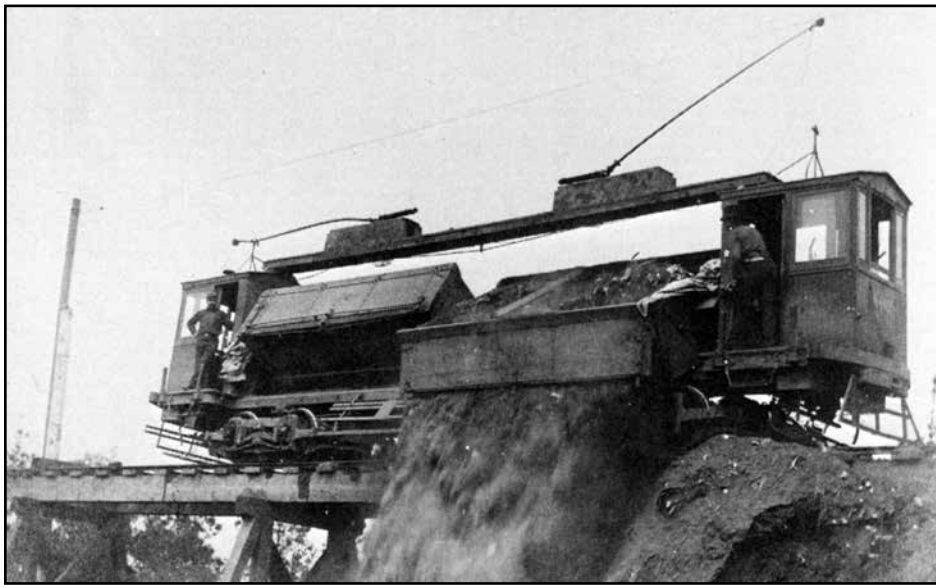
Book Review by Nancy Shanahan

Hidden San Francisco, an engaging new book by Chris Carlsson, is the latest extension of an extraordinary assemblage of San Francisco history, collected and compiled over the past 25 years by the *Shaping San Francisco* project.

When its founders began plotting their project in the mid-1990s, many of them had been part of the Critical Mass bicycling movement already for several years and thus began holding history bike tours as a way of raising money. The project's first iteration appeared at the beginning of 1998 on CD-ROMs and at free public kiosks around the City. Today, the project's vast and growing archive (to which you can contribute today!) is available at foundsf.org.

Carlsson's new book is a great way to access these complicated, overlapping histories by theme and location. The author creatively separated a vast amount of material into four general themes that shaped the history of our city—from the first peoples who lived on our foggy peninsula before Europeans arrived, to the densely developed city we live in today: Ecology, Labor, Transit, and Dissent. A map of a suggested bicycle tour accompanies each theme, complete with "stops" along the way, each one keyed to historic events or stories described in the chapter.

These local histories are fascinating and often surprising, and they will definitely alter your perception of familiar locations. An example from the Transit theme: During the 1890s, the City disposed of tons of "exhaust" produced by the thousands of streetcar horses on the streets and in stables by depositing it on the sand dunes that became Golden Gate Park. The designers of the park, William Hammond Hall and John McLaren, discovered that the barley sprouts in the horseshit actually stabilized the dunes, creating soils that later nourished the park's trees, plants, and lawns. (p. 134)



Dumping aromatic "street sweepings" into a gully in Golden Gate Park, c. 1905.

© UNITED RAILROADS

From the theme of Labor, the guide reminds us that, in one of its first major projects, the San Francisco Redevelopment Agency destroyed the old Produce Market that once occupied a dozen square blocks near the waterfront north of Market Street. This ultimately led to the decimation of the business that had long been the center of the Italian North Beach neighborhood. What came next in that location were the Golden Gate Apartments, off-ramps for the then-new Embarcadero Freeway, and eventually the Embarcadero Center high-rises. All that remains of the Produce Market today is the old brick Colombo Market gate, which stands as an entry arch to Sidney Walton Square. (p. 80)

Whether you are touring by bike, on foot, or just from your armchair at home,



Colombo Market entrance, Front Street between Jackson and Pacific, c. 1903.

© PORT OF SAN FRANCISCO

Hidden San Francisco will lead you through countless intriguing tales of our City's historical development and the people who created change—stories of the Coit Tower muralists and their connection to the labor movement; Mary Ellen Pleasant, the "conductor" of the underground railroad in San Francisco; the "unselling" of Alcatraz and its Native American occupation; the multiple efforts to save our Bay; and how San Bruno Mountain was ironically saved from development by the smell of rotting garbage!

There is no other San Francisco history book quite like this one. Especially in these times, when sitting home reading a good book comes highly recommended, *Hidden San Francisco* should be one of your top choices.

To buy a copy of the book during this difficult period, order directly from the author at <http://www.chriscarlsson.com/hidden-san-francisco-the-book/>.

Author Info

Chris Carlsson is a writer, editor, San Francisco historian, tour guide, photographer, and occasional college professor. He conducts award-winning bicycle and walking tours of San Francisco history, and he is the co-founder and co-director along with LisaRuth Elliot of *Shaping San Francisco* www.shapingsf.org. Since the late 1990s, Chris has been the designer and layout artist of *The Semaphore*.



Colombo Market entrance, c. 1955.

© C.R. SNYDER, VIA FOUNDSF.ORG



Colombo Market entrance, 1967.

© OPENSFHistory.org / WNP25.1151



2015.

© CHRIS CARLSSON



Dan Macchiarini and Termeh Yeghiazarian.

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NEW BOARD MEMBER: TERMEH YEGHIAZARIAN

I am a visual artist, art educator, and community activist interested in the politics of cultural representation, displacement, and socio-economic equity. I have exhibited nationally and internationally, in addition to teaching. I worked as the Volunteerism Manager at Burning Man for many years and co-founded Golden Thread Productions, a theater production company focused on theater of and about the Middle East. I believe in community engagement and do-ocracy and have, among other volunteer roles in numerous nonprofits, served previously as a THD board member and founder of the THD Art & Culture Committee.

I was born in Tehran/Iran to an artistic family who have always encouraged me as an artist. I lived and travelled extensively before finally finding a sense of home in San Francisco in 1991. It's been a challenge living in this ever-changing city as a professional artist; however, I continue stubbornly to hang on!



DISTRICT 3 SUPERVISOR REPORT

by Supervisor Aaron Peskin
aaron.peskin@sfgov.org

Only a few weeks ago, the issue most weighing on my mind was uncovering corruption and implementing structural policy changes across multiple Departments after the FBI's arrest and indictment of Public Works Director Mohammed Nuru. It was a scandal that rocked the City, and as I began to investigate everything from bogus trash can contracts to pay-to-play political favors, it seemed that this would consume the work of my office in the months ahead. It couldn't get worse—or so I thought.

Then the COVID-19 pandemic roared into our collective lives, exposing massive gaps in our national health-care and social safety networks and tragic leadership failures of our federal government. As of April 7th, the total number of global cases has surpassed 1.4 million, and the numbers grow exponentially every day. While one fourth of those patients have recovered, most are still being treated, with about 77,000 fatalities reported worldwide. Here in San Francisco we have 622 cases and 9 deaths. Our city's "curve" is flatter than most.

San Francisco has stepped up to lead in this dark time. Everyone from our Mayor to the Board of Supervisors to the community at large has pulled together to make tough decisions and sacrifices that will ultimately save lives. We became the **first city in the United States** to declare a public health state of emergency and joined with five other counties in the Bay Area to issue a "Shelter in Place" directive, which Governor Newsom soon followed with a California-wide shutdown of all non-essential businesses and travel.

Our Department of Emergency Management has quickly moved our Emergency Operations Center (EOC) from the 911 Center on Turk Street to the Moscone South Convention Center, where appropriate social distancing can be implemented. My office and I have been drafted to staff emergency response on behalf of the Board of Supervisors at the EOC, while still coordinating with community groups in District 3 to make sure that seniors and families are fed and critical information gets out to our constituents. I want to thank Sunny Angulo, Lee Hepner, Calvin Yan, and our new administrative aide, Geri Koeppel, for coordinating and problem solving non-stop and tracking information that often changes hour to hour.

Out in the community, our neighborhood associations, small business owners, and non-profit service providers are doing inspiring work to keep the community connected, fed, and safe. Neighbors are taking care of neighbors, and nowhere is that more apparent than in our village of North Beach. The Salesian Boys & Girls Club and Telegraph Hill Neighborhood Center

KEEP THE COMMUNITY CONNECTED, FED, AND SAFE

are doing family assessments and offering emergency childcare. Francisco Middle School and Galileo High School immediately ramped up food service for at-risk families, and our office worked with SFUSD quickly to add an additional site at Gordon J. Lau Elementary School. Our North Beach Business Association has been busy surveying struggling businesses and sharing newly set-up GoFundMe account links for our extended family of beloved legacy businesses, including Vesuvio Café and Caffè Trieste. Telegraph Hill Dwellers and North Beach Neighbors have expanded efforts to get out resource lists and emergency information, and North Beach Citizens and NextVillage are doing wellness checks on our homeless neighbors and seniors in isolation.

In Chinatown, Self-Help for the Elderly is delivering more than 1,700 meals a day to seniors in need. The Rose Pak Democratic Club helped Chinatown family businesses establish online gift cards and take-out systems, then blasted out a to-go list to communities that might not normally frequent Chinatown. The Ning Young Family Association and other family associations which own properties are offering rent relief to tenants and urging other landlords in Chinatown to follow their example. Incredible.

District 3 queer icon Juanita MORE! has established a Queer Nightlife Fund to help service workers, and the historic San Francisco Flower Mart has set up


a GoFundMe account to take care of their vendors and families during the shutdown. I will be posting one or two of these types of relief funds every day on Twitter throughout the crisis, in addition to my District 3 newsletter blast, which staff are ramping up every other day for distribution. Please share and amplify these suggestions, and sign up on the www.sfbos.org website for the newsletter, if you haven't already. I want to personally thank those of you who are helping to set up these funds, as well as everyone who continues to pay their housekeepers, dog walkers, and nannies. This is how communities survive crises. We are going to get through this—just in time for Lawrence Ferlinghetti's 102nd birthday!

At the City level, I'm working on mandatory increased cleaning and sanitation resources for congregate living situations and public health orders that will ensure that San Francisco is the model of how to track and treat COVID. I've been negotiating with our Class A hotels to lease thousands of rooms for quarantine, isolation, and first-responder use, as well as working with city departments to identify bed capacity at dormant hospital and clinic sites. Our Department of Public Health has committed to hiring up to 170 nurses in mere weeks in order to meet the demands of the expected surge, and I want to thank the incredible healthcare workers who are working around the clock literally to risk their lives to save others. (Including the indomitable Rachel Rodriguez on the THD Board, who has been working round the clock to ensure our most vulnerable are being treated and triaged. Rachel, you are my hero.)

Information is changing every day in this evolving crisis, but I want you to know that our office is here for you and responding. I am so incredibly proud to serve this city and the community of District 3. Your compassion and love for each other are what is fueling me everyday at the EOC.

See you in the (remote) neighborhood,
Aaron



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FROM THE EDITOR

by Cap Caplan
cap.caplan@thd.org

In this extraordinary time of shelter-in-place, closings, and cancellations, the impacts have been felt everywhere, even at *The Semaphore*. We had planned to introduce two new features in this issue, neither of which we were able to achieve.

One focused on welcoming to the neighborhood two new shops or restaurants as well as honoring two stalwarts. Unable to visit them, our reporters found it impossible to do in a deserving fashion.

We also intended to publish a new column, "Kids' Corner," for THD families. Alas, our first "kid in the street" had to stay home.

I've been astonished by the mobilization of this community, in ways formal and informal. Lots of wonderful things are happening, as members have taken to caring for one another. Just have a look at Aaron Peskin's 'Supervisor's Report.' I, myself, have had food and medicine picked up and delivered by a number of younger neighbors, for which I'm grateful beyond words.

Like you, I think about small business owners and their staffs. I'm particularly worried about new businesses. They're immediately saddled with renovation costs and the usual lag time before profitability. Add to that sky-high rents and the terrible hits they're now taking, and one has to wonder how many of them

will still be around when our nightmare is over. We might all want to keep that in mind when ordering out tomorrow's dinner.

Waitstaff at restaurants are having a particularly hard time. Some have been retained through the transition to take-out or by the sheer generosity of employers. But certainly not all. And it's hard to imagine that the lucky ones are earning anything like what they had before. There are things we all could do here, however, with just a little imagination.

Many of you might have heard of the customer at a bar and grill in Columbus, Ohio who left a \$2,500 tip on a \$29.75 bill. Few could afford such a grand gesture, but it occurs to me that there is something along these lines that most of us *could* afford. Instead of that \$3 tip, add \$15 to the bill. The extra \$12 is not likely to make a difference in your life. But for someone working for gratuities,



While Supplies Last!

© STAN HAYES

that's the difference between serving one customer and having served five. Such small gestures wouldn't take long to turn an average, or even subpar, day into a special one.

An acquaintance of mine, worried about a busboy at her favorite restaurant, has launched a GoFundMe venture of sorts. She's drawn up a list of all those who have dined there with her before the shelter-in-place order. Each one has been called, asked for a specific amount, as little as \$5 or as much as \$25. If only four (plus herself) give an average of \$15, that would be \$75. Not a huge sum, but for someone working three jobs and just lost one of them, it will help. This strategy could be scaled up, of course, in innumerable ways.

Have other ideas? Put them into practice, share them with others, and check our website for updated information: thd.org/covid-19.



A TRIBUTE TO ARTHUR CHANG 1933-2020

by Howard Wong
howard.wong@thd.org

Sadly, neighborhood stalwart Arthur Chang passed away peacefully at home in North Beach in the late morning of December 31, 2019. Arthur was 87 years old, although he seemed so much younger with his energy, intelligence, and sweeping knowledge. As an international businessman, he traveled to China often but remained a neighborhood activist and historic preservationist. He served as a board member/officer/committee chair of Telegraph Hill Dwellers and as a founder/president of the District 3 Democratic Club. Arthur lent his support, as a member, to the Northeast Waterfront Advisory Group, Neighborhood Parks Council, and San Francisco Tomorrow.

An Interesting Life

Arthur was born in Shanghai, China, in 1933. He and his family fled the advancing Japanese Army settling first in Southern California, then moving to New York state, where he went to private schools followed by Harvard University. After a year of graduate studies in city planning at the University of Pennsylvania, he got a job as head of the urban renewal staff for Monterey, California.

Arthur married Dorothy Hutchings in 1964 at the Chang family retreat in New Hampshire.

After 12 years of a David vs. Goliath development battle, Arthur left Monterey to take a job with Wurstser, Bernardi and Emmons, the renowned San Francisco architectural firm, helping to rebuild Vietnam.

His next job was renewing the Pike Place Market in Seattle, Washington. Most of the credit for this project should have gone to Arthur, though it didn't. His next Asian project was in China, where he was a liaison officer between U.S. businesses and China at the Crystal Palace Hotel in Tianjin. After the fiasco of Tiananmen Square, Arthur returned to the United States for projects like a gold mine in Nevada.

Neighborhood Activism

Arthur also immersed himself in other community groups such as San Francisco Tomorrow, Neighborhood Parks Council, and Northeast Waterfront Advisory Group. With the return of District elections in 1999, Arthur helped start one of the first Democratic Clubs, arranging well-attended presentations by House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, U.S. Senator Barbara Boxer, Assembly member Tom Ammiano, Public Defender Jeff Adachi, Supervisor Aaron Peskin, other members of the Board of Supervisors, and emerging leaders.

As an historic preservationist, Arthur helped save the Colombo Building at the northwest corner of Columbus Avenue and Washington Street. And, as an aggressive arborist, he saved a block of trees on Bay Street.

Arthur's heart gradually failed, and he passed away tranquilly. "He can't be dead!" people said, "People like him just keep going!" His family planned to scatter his ashes at sea.

Arthur Chang will be greatly missed—a weighty loss.



© GERRY HURTADO

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by George Schumm

John King Duer, if remembered at all, is merely “that guy who had something to do with the semaphore station on the Hill.” He did, indeed. But he also had a life story, one that seems never to have been told. Rather surprising, given that both Telegraph Hill and this publication might well be called something else were it not for him. The least he’s owed is a sketch of that life, and a rather full, if short, life it was.

A Legacy of Service (and a Little Skulduggery)

The Duers were one of the pioneering families of the State of New York and of some renown. Immigrants from Devonshire, England, they built a thriving timber business around the Albany area.

William Duer (1743-99), the family patriarch, was one of the country’s Founding Fathers. He was a Revolutionary War Colonel, member of the Continental Congress, and signer of the Articles of Confederation.

He was also quite the scoundrel. Using inside information gained while serving as Assistant Treasury Secretary under Alexander Hamilton, William speculated heavily in bank stocks, particularly those of the Bank of New York. The scheme was financed largely through massive borrowing from New Yorkers of every socio-economic stripe—with promises of outrageous returns. Its inevitable collapse helped precipitate the country’s first financial crisis (the Panic of 1792) and resulted in William spending all but a few months of the last seven years of his life in debtor’s prison. The fiasco also led to the creation of the New York Stock Exchange, an effort to impose some sort of discipline on stock trading.

His son William Alexander Duer (1780-1858) kept his nose rather cleaner. He was a distinguished lawyer and jurist, a judge on the New York Supreme Court 1822-29, and then tapped as the seventh President of Columbia College (now University), serving in that capacity until ill health forced him to resign in 1842.

The Early Years

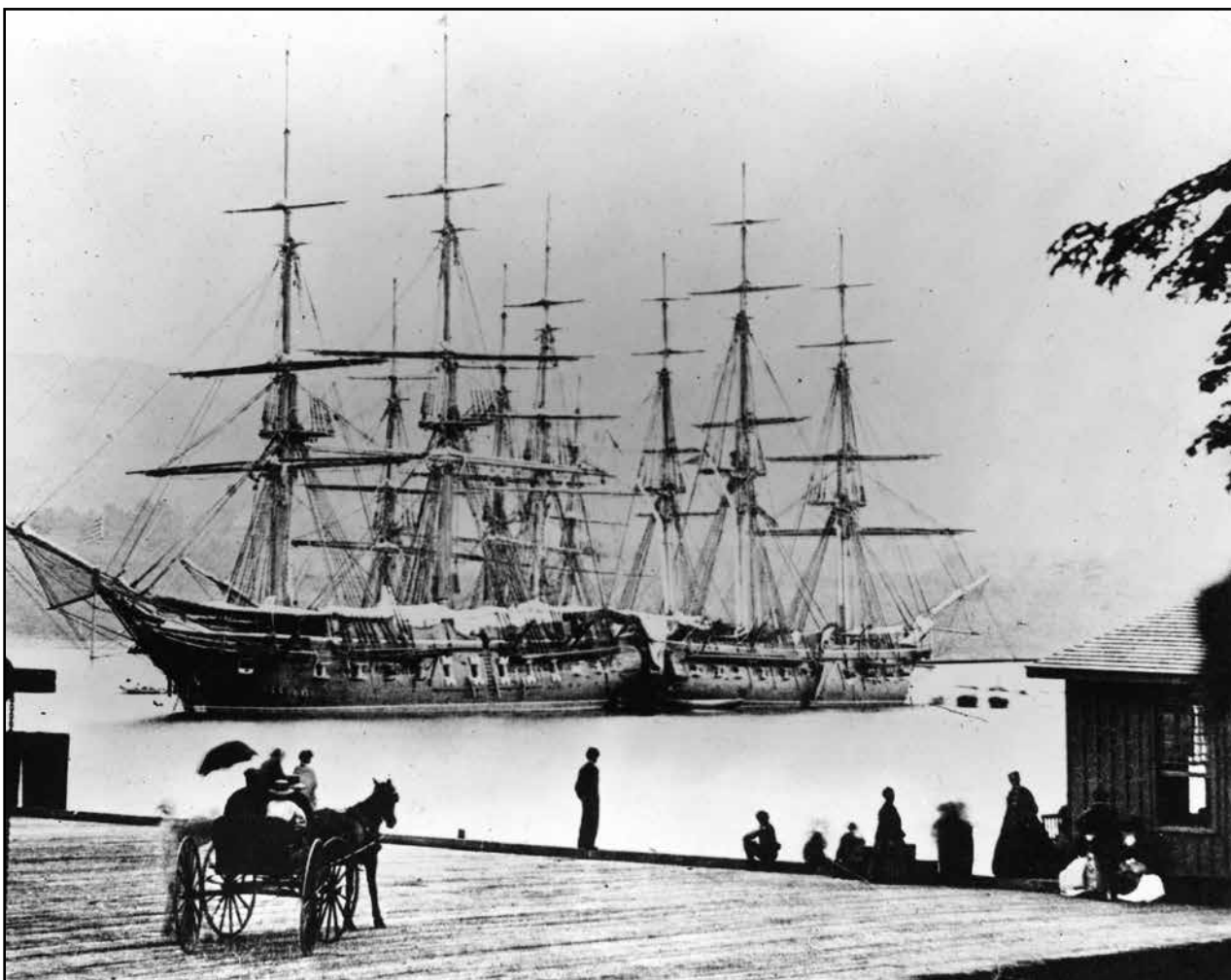
Our Duer, John King, was born December 26, 1818 in Albany, one of ten offspring of William Alexander and Hannah Maria Denning Duer (1782-1862).

The circumstances of his early upbringing are lost in the fog of time. What is known is that he entered the Navy as a Midshipman just two days after his eighteenth birthday and was promptly assigned to the sailing frigate *USS Macedonian*, on which he would serve off and on through at least 1841.

Why he chose a naval career is unclear, although his father’s one-year service in the Navy might have influenced the decision. In any event, Duer couldn’t have picked a more auspicious time.

His would be the age of “Manifest Destiny,” the U.S. rapidly expanding with an eye on the Pacific Coast, most of which belonged to Mexico. There was no north-west passage, as Lewis and Clark had discovered, nor pony express, transcontinental railroad or telegraph, nor Panama Canal. Sailing around the tip of South America was the essential link between the two coasts, a link it would fall to the Navy to protect. More generally, the U.S. was emerging as a world power with—and to no small extent because of—a global sea-going presence. Ships were the name of the game. A capable naval officer could scarcely avoid participation in some of the weightiest happenings of the day.

During a visit to the Bahamas aboard the man-of-war *USS Ontario*, Duer met Georgeanna Huyler (1818-84), born and raised on the islands and



USS *Macedonian* (left)

COURTESY THE LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

daughter of the U.S. Consul at Nassau. When her family moved to New York not long thereafter, she and Duer were married on September 23, 1841 and would go on to have five children together.

Duer became a Passed Midshipman on July 1, 1842, now eligible for promotion to Lieutenant. Following a two-month leave of absence to deal with family matters, he requested assignment to a sea-going vessel bound anywhere but for the West Indies, the region of all his service to date.

He was attached first to the powerful warship *USS North Carolina* and then the *USS Raritan*, one of the Navy’s last sailing frigates. This latter vessel left to join

the Brazil Squadron as temporary flagship on February 20, 1844, returning north the following year to become part of the Home Squadron blockading the eastern coast of Mexico. This service was augmented by a brief stint on the steamer *USS Spitfire* in 1846.

During this period, Duer found time to edit “The Nautilus: A Collection of Nautical Tales and Sea Sketches” in tribute to a former shipmate from Georgia. The piece was published in the short-lived New York newspaper *The New World* in January of 1843.

Thus far, aside from the fine details, Duer’s story differs little from that of many ambitious young Midshipmen of the period. That was about to change.

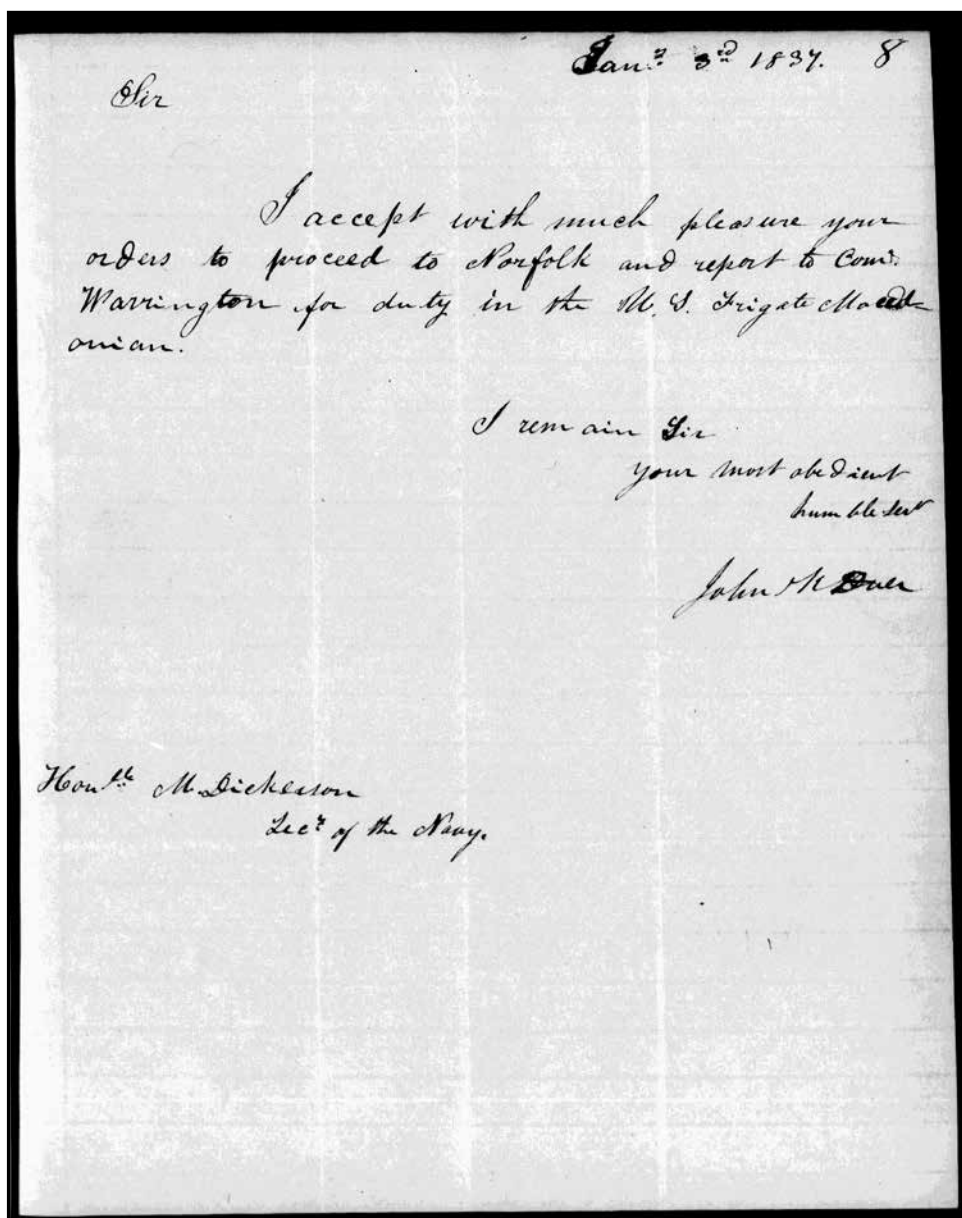
California Calling

Spurred by rumor of a massacre in California and anticipating a westward movement of the Army, Duer lobbied to cross the continent with the troops, where he would join the Pacific Squadron, tasked with guarding and promoting U.S. interests along the coast of California and Oregon.

The request granted, Duer traveled overland to Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, likely passing through St. Louis. Reportedly carrying important dispatches for the Pacific Squadron, he left on June 7, 1847 with Company B of the Army’s 1st Dragoons, escorting a paymaster and \$350,000 in gold coin to New Mexico. He arrived at Santa Fe without incident and then made his way to the West Coast, where he linked up with the Navy.

Duer showed up in San Francisco in 1848 aboard the store ship *USS Southampton*. Over the next 18 months, he designed and oversaw the construction of a semaphore-based signaling station on the summit of Telegraph Hill, lending the prominence its name. He had even grander plans for his nascent telegraph system but never the opportunity to execute them. Following an unsuccessful attempt by local merchants to secure him a paid position with the city, Duer left for New York in August of 1850 with the *USS Tennessee*.

His time here saw significant advance in his naval career. Duer was one of the first to pilot ships to Benicia in the North Bay, then an Army depot (San Francisco having been deemed too



Acknowledgement of first assignment

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F JOHN KING DUER



USS St. Mary's

expensive for such a facility). On November 3, 1849, he became a Master, meaning he was now trained in and qualified for command of a sailing vessel. And the next year, on April 20, he received his long-awaited promotion to Lieutenant.

Not all was smooth sailing, however, and we almost didn't get our semaphore station. Some eight months before construction began, the structure still in the planning stages, Duer was reassigned as an Acting Lieutenant to the *USS St. Mary's*. This sloop-of-war had played a role in the annexation of Texas and was now slated for Pacific patrol, ranging from the coasts of North and South America all the way to the Far East. Not exactly what had animated Duer's trek to the West Coast. He came to work on behalf of the newly acquired California territory, not to cruise the high seas.

In the accompanying letter from 1849, Duer asks to be relieved of this new post and ordered back to the East Coast ("the United States"). In the event, and lucky for us, the matter was somehow resolved. He would remain here in San Francisco for the next 16 months.

Perry's Expedition to Japan

Then, in 1852, Duer was detailed to Commodore Matthew Perry's expedition to Japan for the purpose of opening its ports to foreign trade. The fleet departed late that year from Hampton Roads, Virginia, sailing east around the horn of Africa and on to the Far East.

As a member of the expedition, Duer would be a spectator to Perry's infamous gunboat diplomacy and well-positioned to chronicle the naval operations involved. One of Duer's communiques home appears in fact to have formed the basis of an article in *The New York Times* (then just *The Times*) describing Perry's foray up the Yangtze River.

As watch commander of the *USS Mississippi* on the night of July 9, 1853, Duer witnessed a striking astronomical event. His account, recorded in Perry's personal journal: "During the watch from midnight to 4 A.M. a very remarkable meteor was seen. It made its appearance in the south and west and illuminated the whole atmosphere. The spars, sails and hulls of the ships in company as well as our own reflected its glare as distinctly as though a blue light were burning from each at the same time. From the south and west about 15 degrees above the horizon it pursued a north-easterly course in a direct line for a long distance, when it fell gradually toward the sea and disappeared. Its shape was that of a large blue sphere with a red wedge-shaped tail, which it could be easily observed was formed of ignited particles, and resembled the sparks of a rocket as they appear upon its explosion." A mere sidebar of naval history, of little import save for the fact that a History Channel program in 2006 ginned up the episode into an early UFO sighting!

Duer made a brief return visit to San Francisco in 1854 to enthusiastic press coverage, arriving aboard Perry's flagship, the steam frigate *USS Susquehanna*. In light of his earlier voyage from the West Coast to the East, this marked for Duer the complete circumnavigation of the globe.

Coastal Surveying

After Perry's hastily arranged second expedition to Japan, Duer returned to the East Coast and, in 1855, was assigned to the Office of Coast Survey (OCS). This department, set up by Thomas Jefferson in 1807, was one of the U.S. government's oldest scientific organizations and the official U.S. chart maker. Of remarkable duration, the office was folded into the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration only in 1970, where the OCS's mission continues.

Whether this attachment was at Duer's instigation or merely fortuitous, I don't know. He had expressed interest in nautical survey four years earlier, having written to the Secretary of the Navy grousing over the inaccuracy of extant sea charts of the Pacific Coast and bucking for command of a survey vessel should the Navy choose to address this deficiency. Nothing seems to have come of it despite his estimation that he could have everything whipped into shape in about a year's time.

Navy personnel detailed to the OCS generally worked on hydrographic surveys in coastal waters. In this capacity, Duer was

first assigned to the survey steamer *Walker*. Then, at his request, he was transferred to the *Varina*, a survey schooner mapping the west coast of Florida, serving as an assistant and later, commander.

In 1857, he took command of the survey schooner *Vixen*. The following year, he would discover a new channel, often designated as the "Duer Channel" on older maps, between the east end of St. George's Sound in the Apalachicola Bay system of northwest Florida and the Gulf of Mexico.

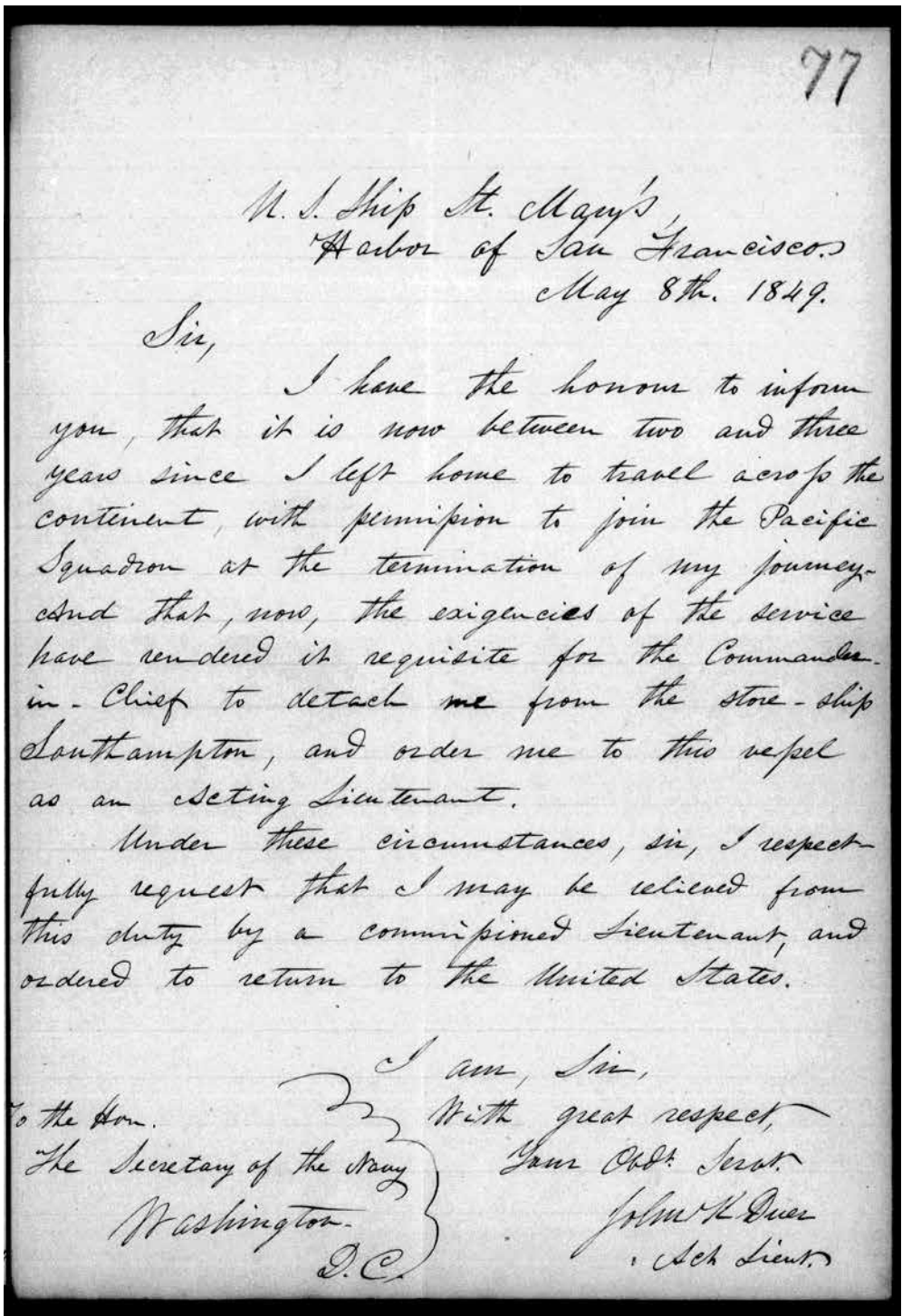
The channel isn't easy to navigate and, because of the shallow waters around it, can be used only with light crafts. Knowledgeable locals, however, employ it to this day when seeking shelter in the protected sound from severe weather in the Gulf.

Duer was still in command of the *Vixen* when, on March 30, 1859, writing from Pensacola, he sent a letter to the Secretary of the Navy naming two American ships believed to be involved in the transatlantic slave trade.

It would be his last. He died of heart disease of some years' standing less than three months later on June 14 in Apalachicola, Florida. His place of burial is unknown.

The San Francisco Legacy

Duer's signaling station remained in operation for three years and played a significant, early role in the emergence of San Francisco as a world port. Where the idea for his novel design originated, we'll probably never know. Perhaps he picked up something from his time at the Naval School in Philadelphia, which he attended some years before coming here. Or, perhaps, he modeled his system after semaphore stations already in operation around major cities on the East Coast. Whatever the answer, the structure served as one of the most important ones in town prior to the introduction of electronic telegraphy. ✕



Letter from San Francisco Bay

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PARKS & TREES REPORT

by Don Raichle, Committee Chair
don.raichle@thd.org

Spring is the time of the year that many of us are further reminded how lucky we are to live in this amazing region and, better yet, in this wonderful neighborhood. The surrounding hills turn from grey to iridescent green, Oaks are leafing out, and, if you're in the right spot, hummingbirds start showing up on balconies and decks. Spring 2020, unfortunately, has not provided that annual sense of renewal. It goes without saying that life has changed for everyone as a result of the Covid-19 virus. It is to be hoped that by the time you are reading this, things have changed for the better and some of the vibrance has returned to our sidewalks and parks. As of this writing in late March, that is clearly not the case; most of us are inside waiting out the storm and dealing with the lifestyle, social, financial, and, for only a very few, health impacts which this has wrought.

As our worlds have become smaller, however, it is an opportunity to realize that our neighborhood is still out there waiting for us to be able to engage. Much of the aggravation that has occurred over the last couple of years related to making sure our local park projects meet the prescribed expectations can now be put in perspective. Despite delays and shortcomings during recent construction and ongoing concerns, we are lucky to be surrounded by so many wonderful open spaces. Just as important, while our more well-known parks are great, many of the best spots are simple plantings or views that are just around the corner. I would argue that they are just as important as essential features making Telegraph Hill what it is. The Filbert and Vallejo Steps are obvious special locations, but there are probably hundreds more. For me, my favorite green spot on the hill is in the air.

Typically, the trees associated with Telegraph Hill are the Monterey Cypress that surround Coit Tower. For some of us on the south slope, at least for me, the most amazing tree on the hill is a giant Eucalyptus. The

THE LANDSCAPE NEXT DOOR



Giant Eucalyptus.

© DON RAICHLE

home of this enormous tree is somewhere mid-block between Kearny, Vallejo, Green, and Kohler Place. It can't be seen from the surrounding streets, but for those who luckily catch it out their window, or from their rooftop, it provides a constant source of animation, focus, and entertainment. It stands as a counterpoint to the rooftops terracing up the slope around it, significantly enhancing the skyline. In addition to being beautiful, this Eucalyptus tree is also an excellent natural weather station. It begins to rustle in even the lightest breeze. When the wind comes up, the tree begins moving in all directions. This sometimes-violent swaying is made more dramatic standing in stark contrast to two stoic immovable Italian Stone Pines near its base. Best of all, the tree is full of life. Crows, especially, like

to hang out under its leaves. Occasionally, they will explode out in a huge swooping screeching flock. At other times, it's our famous parrots that are circling and diving into and out of its canopy. In truth, rarely a day goes by without my looking up the hill to see what it will share or tell me.

So, in these strange times we should all be encouraged to look out the window or around the corner and enjoy the smaller spots that make them happy on a day-to-day basis and remind us of why we love living in this neighborhood.

As for the parks and open spaces we have and cherish, the following is a brief update on the status of the recent "improvements" to several of them as of this writing.

Washington Square Update:

Recreation and Parks (RecPark) continues to monitor the condition of the lawn in response to its slow establishment. The actual drainage system installed has improved overall drainage of the park; however, issues related to sod health and its appearance continue. The cause of the establishment problem is still not fully identified. As for the lawn's color, the decision of RecPark to use a grass species that is semi-dormant in the winter (apparently a new City standard) with the intent of supporting better conservation of water has resulted in a less-than-emerald-green lawn. Some measures have been taken to address each issue including aeration of the sod and overseeding with another grass species to bring back a more consistent green appearance. Neither has resulted in a noticeable change. THD is pressing to have a stakeholders' meeting on the lawn's progress once it's appropriate to have public gatherings.

Pioneer Park Update:

Tree thinning and pruning throughout the park appear to be substantially completed. The good news is that views out to the Bay and surrounding City are back from the edge of the circular promenade. On the downside, understory plantings of moderate to tall shrubs below the opened-up Cypress canopy still hasn't occurred, leaving the Hill's slopes looking denuded and surrounding residents more exposed to views than desired. THD will continue to push to have an understory planting plan prepared and executed to address this concern.

Ficus Tree Update:

The three Ficus trees adjacent to Washington Square slated for removal have been taken down. Unlike past instances, where the stumps have been left in place for months, Public Works planted seven new replacement Magnolias closer to the curb, which creates a wider sidewalk next to the park.



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REST IN PEACE: MAL SHARPE AND DEFORREST WIGGINS

by Romalyn Schmaltz

North Beach, San Francisco, and the world lost two more legendary musicians late this winter in Mal Sharpe and DeForrest Wiggins, both of whom I had the great fortune, along with many of you, to know.



Mal Sharpe

© SAN FRANCISCO CHRONICLE

Malcolm Sharpe

Mal Sharpe was born on April 2, 1936, in Cambridge, Massachusetts and studied broadcasting at Boston University. He began performing on the streets of San Francisco in the 1960s but not always as a musician. Mal was originally known for his community pranks reminiscent of audience-participation improv and performance art. Along with his sidekick, Jim Coyle, he began a nightly show on KGO called “Coyle and Sharpe on the Loose,” where they aired their straight-man street pranks alongside musical numbers. Many entertainers credit Mal with inventing the concept of “punking” one’s own audience and driving improvisational performance into new territory—out of the theatre and onto the raw realities of the sidewalk.

Mal later parlayed that experience into short sketches for KQED and KMEL, and soon thereafter, he began appearing about town wielding a trombone rather than a hidden microphone, founding the Big Money in Jazz band. THD member and fellow

musician Ned Boynton booked Mal at places like Enrique’s, and for a while there, Mal Sharpe and the Big Money in Jazz band played Sundays out on the Savoy Tivoli terrace. Big Money in Jazz was an audience-participation-friendly outfit that produced serious New Orleans-style jazz juxtaposed with a decidedly un-serious, sassy set of personalities that made you want to stuff the tip jar like it was a Mardi Gras float.

I was lucky to get to know Mal at the Savoy Tivoli more than a decade ago, where photographer Dennis Hearne introduced

us. I was shocked that music this good and this professional was not only free and in my new neighborhood but also *fun*! I’d only lived here a few years when Mal’s band got me dancing on the street, and by the end of my first pilgrimage there, I was slapping hands, buying CDs, and passing the hat myself.

Mal was old-school San Francisco at the same time that he was a wide-eyed wonder child, always looking for the next path to mischievously mine the joy out of life and share the bounty with anyone who wanted to join. His spirit embodied the DIY, playful nature of North Beach and Telegraph Hill, and it will be felt everywhere. R.I.P. Malcolm Sharpe, April 1936–March 2020



DeForrest Wiggins, guardian of The Saloon

© ROMALYN SCHMALTZ

Philadelphia, and he passed in his North Beach home on February 8, 2020.

I first met DeForrest as spring was sprawling itself onto Washington Square Park in 2008. Some friends and I were picnicking there, and he just cleared a swath of grass and joined us with his guitar, breaking into song. Immediately, we were all impressed with his blend of finger-picking, strong blues chords, and dexterity, but we were blown away by his refusal to play covers—all these songs, he explained, were his own! In fact, as CBS reporter Joe Vazquez recounted in a eulogy, DeForrest wouldn’t even play other people’s songs for money. I recall one terrific tune, “She’s Weird”—about his ex-wife—being as hilarious as it was technically insane. We had before us a guitar god. By the end of that first day, we were fast friends for life.

He was homeless in the early 2000s and struggled on and off with street-life issues until North Beach Citizens was able to assist him in finding help, health, and housing. This was completely transformative for DeForrest: soon thereafter, he reconciled with his family back east, even raising the funds to go visit his parents and siblings. Upon his return, he showed me all the pictures he’d taken of them, and I wept, as smiling as I was speechless. He continued to visit them frequently for the subsequent years, including when one of his sisters passed in 2019.

After that, the world opened up to DeForrest in big ways. Despite a serious struggle with cancer—which he won—he began a band with Telegraph Hill resident David Zieses. They called themselves “We Are the Kind,” and they forged a regular, year-round tour roster that spanned from Nicaragua to New Orleans, playing original songs and inviting local musicians to tap into their magic. Back in San Francisco, they played many gigs throughout the City, but their home was always The Saloon, which rather doubled as DeForrest’s office.

And so it was at The Saloon that we gathered to say farewell to North Beach’s musical genius-phoenix in a standing-room-only event with vivid storytelling and song. I still look for him in the doorway whenever I pass Fresno Alley, expecting to see his rail-thin frame, giant afro, and impossibly snazzy duds keeping watch over the Grant Avenue entrance to our neighborhood.

R.I.P. DeForrest Wiggins, July 1958–February 2020.



DeForrest Wiggins

© DENNIS HEARNE

DeForrest Wiggins

If you’ve spent any time in or even near The Saloon in the last five years or so, you’ve met DeForrest Wiggins. DeForrest was born in July of 1958 in

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WATERFRONT COMMITTEE REPORT

by Jon Golinger, Committee Chair
jon.golinger@thd.org

In a major win for art and culture on San Francisco's waterfront, after experiencing major pushback from the public, the Port of San Francisco reversed its Christmas-time Grinch decision to try to evict a world-class free art museum from Pier 24. In early December, the Port suddenly served a 30-day eviction notice on the non-profit *Pier 24 Photography Museum*, the only free art museum on the entire waterfront. For its entire 10-year history at Pier 24, the museum featuring world-class photographs, simply but elegantly presented inside a clean, well-lighted place for looks, has been free and open to the public. In the eviction notice, Port Director of Real Estate Michael Martin demanded "market-rate rent" equivalent to what private technology company offices or venture capital financial firms could pay. "At this point, Port staff does not see a way to bridge the gap between the two sides," said Martin.

After THD members and many others expressed outrage at this decision, the Port reversed course. On March 10, 2020, the San Francisco Port Commission voted unanimously to approve a settlement agreement with the Pilara Family Foundation, which runs the *Pier 24 Photography Museum*, resolving the rent dispute and entering into a new four-year lease. In exchange for continuing its public-oriented operations and keeping the museum free and open to the public, and improving its reporting to the Port of visitor attendance numbers and any special event activities, Pier 24 Photography will continue to operate on the waterfront at a reasonable rent for a non-profit art museum for the next four years. Both parties also agreed to explore whether there are beneficial improvements the museum could make to the premises that would justify further extension of the lease term beyond the four-year period, keeping world-class photography on San Francisco's waterfront for many more years to come.

There's one way you can celebrate this art victory: Go visit Pier 24 at your next opportunity. It's free—you just need to reserve your day & time slot here: <https://pier24.org/visit/>

HONORING ARTHUR CHANG ON THE WATERFRONT

On March 4, the Port of San Francisco's Northeast Waterfront Advisory Committee (NEWAG) remembered Arthur Chang. Many of the committee members had served with Arthur on the waterfront committee for years, and some became his friend. Along with Nan Roth and June Osterberg, I considered Arthur to be one of my "waterfront mentors," encouraging me to ask informed questions of government officials and developers, pay close attention to their answers, and dig deeper to get at the truth of what is really going on.

In that spirit, I continue with my advocacy for our unique and spectacular waterfront and challenge you

WATERFRONT ART VICTORY!

to consider stepping up to fill the places left by Arthur, Nan, and June. There is much work to be done—ask the THD President or me if you would like to find a way to contribute to a better waterfront as Arthur found his own way to do. In that spirit, I leave you with these words that we ended the NEWAG meeting with, remembering Arthur Chang.

"I ask that we adjourn this NEWAG meeting in honor of Arthur Chang, who passed away on December 31st at the age of 87 in his home in North Beach a few blocks from the waterfront.

Arthur was a long-time member of NEWAG. He was one of the few dedicated community representatives who served on NEWAG over a long period of time with no self-interest at stake and serving no cause or interest other than his own concern for San Francisco's waterfront.

Arthur not only consistently attended NEWAG meetings over many years but he actively participated in discussions and worked hard to understand complex issues well enough to ask meaningful questions. Arthur never grandstanded with his questions or comments. He measured his words to make them matter. Sometimes in a pointed fashion – always with a point.

It is fitting that Arthur's ashes will be scattered at sea to find their rest as part of San Francisco Bay and the waterfront he cared about and dedicated so much of his time and energy to saving.

NEWAG appreciates Arthur Chang's contributions and will miss his presence and his voice." ✂

PROPOSED BOARD SLATE FOR 2020-21

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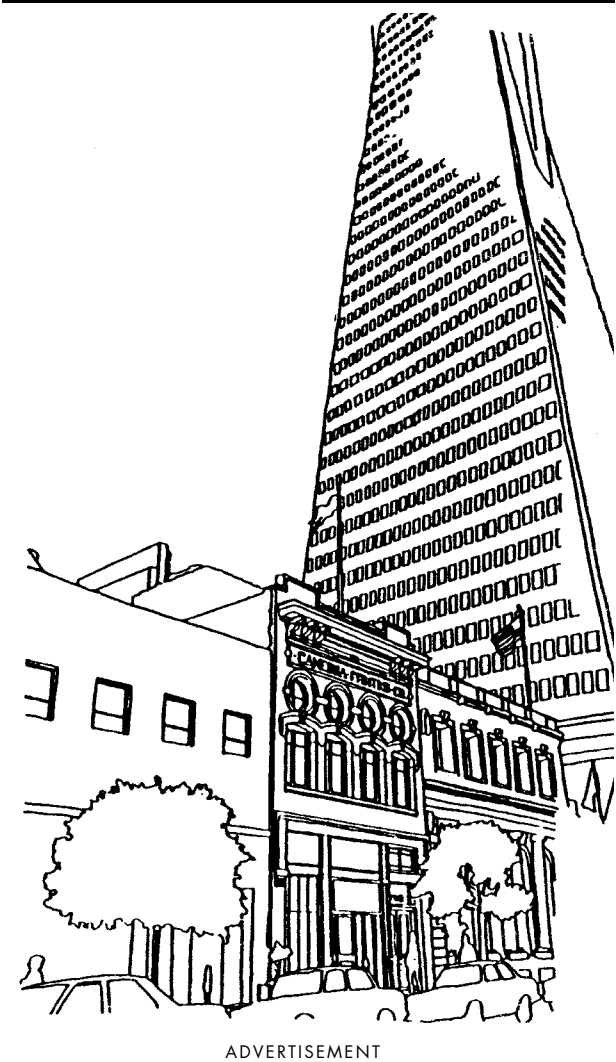
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LIAISONS WITH OTHER ORGANIZATIONS

- Central Police District Community Advisory Board: Daryl Babbitt
Coalition for San Francisco Neighborhoods: Al Fontes
Friends of Washington Square Liaison: Don Raichle
Northeast Waterfront Advisory Group Member: Jon Golinger

BOARD MEETING HIGHLIGHTS JANUARY-MARCH 2020

by Mary Lipian, Recording Secretary
mary.lipian@thd.org

January 2020

The Board passed a **Motion** authorizing the President to send a letter to SFMTA setting forth THD's input on a proposed subway extension into North Beach:

- Opposing any impacts to Washington Square from a subway extension;
- Identifying negative impacts of an extension that would increase property values resulting in up-zoning, demolitions, and adverse impacts to tenants and small businesses from displacement and higher rents; and
- Urging SFMTA to consider lessons learned from the Central Subway project to mitigate and avoid similar fiscal and scheduling problems on any extensions.

The Board passed a **Motion** authorizing the President to promote the preservation and protection of the Buon Gusto Sausage Factory building by applying to San Francisco Heritage for a preservation fund grant to nominate the building at 535 Green Street to the National Register of Historic Places; and to continue working with the project sponsor to encourage the preservation of the building as part of the proposed new development.

THD's well-attended Event, "Turning the Pages of Time: The Semaphore and Other Neighborhood Newspapers," was held on January 7, 2020, at the Italian Community Services (ICS) in the historic Fugazi Building at 678 Green Street. LisaRuth Elliott, co-founder and co-director of *Shaping San Francisco*, presented their project to digitize neighborhood newspapers of San Francisco, including the digitization of all issues of the Semaphore from 1954 to the present day.

February 2020

Al Fontes agreed to serve as THD's delegate at the Coalition of San Francisco Neighborhoods, an organization of more than 20 neighborhood groups.


Pursuant to THD's bylaws, the following board members were selected to serve on THD's Nominating Committee for 2020-2021: Al Fontes, Patrice Ignacio Moll, Mary Lipian, Rachel Rodriguez, and Nancy Shanahan.

March 2020

The Board passed a **Motion** to establish a Special Committee for Membership Recruitment. Nick Ferris volunteered to chair the committee, and Al Fontes, Andy Katz, Patrice Ignacio Moll, and Stan Hayes volunteered to serve on it.



Join the Telegraph Hill Dwellers!
Go to thd.org and become part of this active community!



TELEGRAPH HILL DWELLERS
Voice Mail: (415) 843-1011. Web Site: www.thd.org
P.O. Box 330159 • San Francisco, CA 94133

THD BOARD OFFICERS 2019-2020
President: Stan Hayes — stan.hayes@thd.org
Vice-President: Nancy Shanahan — nancy.shanahan@thd.org
Recording Secretary: Mary Lipian — mary.lipian@thd.org
Corresponding Secretary: Katie Hopkins — katie.hopkins@thd.org
Treasurer: Nick Ferris — nick.ferris@thd.org
Financial Secretary: Andy Katz — andy.katz@thd.org
Historian: Al Fontes — al.fontes@thd.org
Immediate Past President: Judy Irving — judy.irving@thd.org
Editor of *The Semaphore*: Cap Caplan — cap.caplan@thd.org

DIRECTORS
Term: 2019-2021
Romalyn Schmaltz
Patrice Ignacio Moll
Rachel Rodriguez
Sarah Kliban
Term: 2018-2020
Leah Lovelace
Don Raichle
Julia Martin Murphy
Termeh Yeghiazarian



**WELCOMING
NEW MEMBERS!**

There's no better way to be connected to your neighborhood and be a voice of the hill than by joining Telegraph Hill Dwellers, today.

Join at *THD.org*. If you'd prefer to have a brochure and sign-up form mailed to you, please send an email to membership@thd.org. Already a member? Give one as a gift!

Membership includes:

- A one-year subscription to news & events via email and a quarterly paper, *The Semaphore*.
- Opportunities to be active in your community. Your passion likely aligns to one of many committees.
- Social and Art & Culture events throughout the year – attend and contribute!

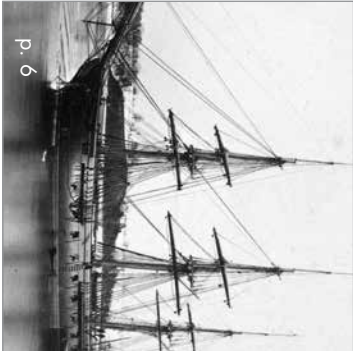
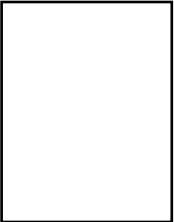
Annual Dues:

Individuals.....	\$35
Households.....	\$50
Seniors (65 and older).....	\$25
Senior Households.....	\$40

Join now or give the gift of membership at *THD.org* or email membership@thd.org.



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THE SEMAPHORE

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